Liberty University
DigitalCommons@Liberty University

November/December 2007 2007

11-2007

Simply Spectacular

Liberty University

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/lj_2007_nov

Recommended Citation
Liberty University, "Simply Spectacular" (2007). *November/December 2007*. Paper 16.
http://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/lj_2007_nov/16

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the 2007 at DigitalCommons@Liberty University. It has been accepted for inclusion in November/December 2007 by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@Liberty University. For more information, please contact scholarlycommunication@liberty.edu.

Simply Spectacular

December 20, 2007

This year's production of The Virginia Christmas Spectacular at Thomas Road Baptist Church is the biggest show since the church started its Living Christmas Tree in 1971.

More than 40,000 people saw the show this year. The cast of more than 500 (including 250 in the choir, the orchestra and performers) wowed audiences in 10 shows open to the public, one show for Liberty students, and one invitation-only show for family and friends. They also did two nights of television taping.

The show airs on WSET at 11 pm Dec. 24 and at multiple times on The Liberty Channel (check www.libertychannel.com).

Timeline leading up to the 2007 shows

January
Choreographer Loretta Wittman and TRBC choir director Scott Bullman meet to evaluate last year's show.

February-May
Wittman and Bullman meet several times throughout the spring to discuss the general shape of the show.

June
Bullman gives Wittman music to listen to and she lets him know which numbers are possibilities for the production.

July & August
A skeleton outline of the show is complete and work begins with other designers. Musical numbers and concepts for those numbers are firm.

September
Auditions are held Sept. 10, 11, 12 and a cast list is posted the following week.

October
Rehearsals start at the old church. Most performers put in 3-5 hours per week at this time. Construction on the trees begins.

November
Rehearsals ramp up. By the middle of this month performers are working on the stage and designers incorporate large props and some set pieces. Lights are wired on the trees and technical work begins. On Nov. 25, there are two rehearsals, including a dress rehearsal. Opening night is Nov. 30.

December
Performances are held Dec. 1 & 2 and Dec. 7-9 for the general public. Tear-down begins immediately after the last show, with the cast, workers from the cabinet shop, and field operations crew and other volunteers working to try and get the church back in order for the next Sunday. Trees and stage sets are stored and the choir loft is set back into place.